Suicide due to debt burden

3994. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI DARA SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) how many farmers had committed suicide in the country due to debt-burden during the last three years, State-wise, till date;

(b) what is the average debt-burden on a farmer household, State-wise in the country; and

(c) what steps Government have taken, so far, to stop such suicide cases indicating financial packages, if any, declared, till date, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) As per information furnished by the State Governments, farmers have committed suicide mainly on account of crop failure, indebtedness, drought and social and economic insecurity. A Statement indicating State-wise figures of suicide during recent years is in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) As per the NSSO report No. 498,59th Round (January-December 2003), the average debt-burden on a farmer household was Rs. 12,585.00. The statement showing State-wise figures of average debt-burden is given in Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) The Government of India has taken several initiatives in this regard. Some of the initiatives are as under:

(i) A rehabilitation package for 31 suicide prone districts in the four States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Kerala, involving a total amount of Rs. 16978.69 crore consisting of Rs. 10579.43 crore as subsidy/grants and Rs.6399.26 crore as loan, has been launched. The State-wise break up is under:

Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 9650.55 crore
Karnataka	Rs. 2689.64 crore
Kerala	Rs. 765.24 crore
Maharashtra	Rs. 3873.26 crore

(ii) A comprehensive credit policy was announced by the Government on 18th June, 2004 containing measures for doubling of agricultural credit flow in next three years and provision of debt relief to farmers.

(iii) In the Union Budget for the year 2006-07, it has been announced that effective from Kharif 2006-07, farmers would receive crop loans upto a principal amount of Rs. 3.00 lakh @ 7% and the

Government would provide necessary interest subvention for this purpose. This Policy has been continued in the year 2007-08.

(iv) For smaller borrowers who may not have the necessary assests as collateral, the banks have been advised to waive margin/ security requirement for agricultural loans up to Rs. 50000/-.

Statement

Cases of suicide by farmers in States

(As on 31.03.2007)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Period	No. (Based on the figures reported by State Govts.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2003-04	393
		2004-05	1126
		2005-06	378
		2006-07 (up to 31.03.2007)	150
2.	Karnataka	2003-04	708
		2004-05	271
		2005-06	152
		2006-07 (up to 20.03.2007)	243
3.	Maharashtra	2003	173
		2004	622
		2005	577
		2006	2329
		2007 (upto Feb., 2007)	239
4.	Tamil Nadu	2000-2007 (upto March, 07)	26
5.	Punjab*	2003	13
		2004	11
		2005	6
6.	Kerala	2001to 2006	841
		2007 (up to 31.01.2007)	13
7.	Gujarat*	2003	3
		2004	7
		2005	7
		2006	1

* Up to date information is awaited from the State Governments.

The number of suicide reported by Governments of Orissa, Goa, Chandigarh, Andaman & Nicobar, Sikkim and Delhi is nil. Reports from other States/UTs are awaited.

Statement-II

Average amount of outstanding loan per farmer household by MPCE class

Social group: **All**

States	Outstanding loan (Rs.) per household by MPCE class												No. of farmer hhs having outstanding loan		
	0 -225	225 -255	255- 300	300- 340	340- 380	380- 420	420- 470	470- 525	525- 615	615- 775	775- 950	>950	all closses	estd (00)	sam- ple
Andhra Pradesh	16727	17809	17801	17412	18091	18232	25071	23400	33748	27413	35115	61307	23965	49493	2690
Arunachal Pradesh	93	731	15	129	155	494	453	517	834	1043	95	897	493	72	45
Assam	385	516	259	396	748	707	827	694	1468	1165	2861	1794	813	4536	425
Bihar	3035	3845	4399	5197	5692	3529	4299	3216	4142	10492	5443	2923	4476	23383	1320
Chhattisgarh	2076	2573	2580	5358	6133	2897	3350	7913	6093	15203	9176	4117	4122	11092	456
Gujarat	4579	4390	9934	5681	6483	8131	12891	15718	20665	22143	34606	31188	15526	19644	661
Haryana	4489	2701	14812	23237	16629	10764	25159	32248	20195	35289	34586	26109	26007	10330	493
Himachal Pradesh	2264	1837	2196	3553	9896	8542	6748	11807	11422	9241	11233	15058	9618	3030	398
Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	110	1474	1424	517	3939	1893	1334	624	4764	5194	1903	3003	163
Jharkhand	1773	1484	1564	2925	1204	1179	3751	805	2680	3541	52017	1096	2205	5893	298
Karnataka	9140	6776	14996	9556	8151	14205	17588	21512	24631	36391	32734	89208	18135	24897	1168
Kerala	6201	18473	19672	17568	17050	19521	28549	24726	28517	33126	34544	56634	33907	14126	1437
Madhya Pradesh	6305	9437	15322	11434	16067	9479	20889	17313	24388	22311	26690	52418	14218	32110	1234
Maharashtra	4496	5218	10748	8185	15069	14889	15444	22348	24966	28196	31636	33590	16973	36098	1705
Manipur	257	1378	949	368	880	1369	1133	2918	3447	5620	3097	16366	2269	533	257
Meghalaya	0	0	0	9	45	27	188	54	109	27	39	0	72	103	31
Mizoram	1401	10876	8031	7920	153	199	54	150	548	2832	128	72	1876	184	89

States	Outstanding loan (Rs.) per household by MPCE class													No of farmer bhs having outstanding loan	
Nagaland	0	0	0	0	141	144	675	1347	475	996	1434	1229	1030	294	145
Orissa	2665	3456	4677	7756	11260	6529	7877	17489	7960	17445	11414	46846	5871	20250	923
Punjab	35077	9009	12287	6845	24045	14086	33254	37699	28649	41333	71187	77797	41576	12069	825
Rajasthan	7204	11741	14716	15656	16066	12138	20349	19986	18514	21499	27275	36503	18372	27828	1364
Sikkim	1074	2028	1745	1606	602	1228	1757	2272	1043	1903	7265	14256	2053	174	183
Tamil Nadu	13124	16325	20858	19167	13667	23837	19434	27494	21200	30633	42246	43311	23963	28954	2254
Tripura	3404	12443	1833	2532	3165	3070	2690	2289	4927	1599	4029	2385	2977	1148	457
Uttar Pradesh	3508	5215	7012	7046	5077	8007	7613	12314	9836	10712	7689	13941	7425	69199	2762
Uttaranchal	0	0	247	319	35	627	1618	142	1979	2079	2247	3164	1108	644	43
West Bangal	3222	2492	3117	3618	3591	5074	5953	4119	6282	8856	10078	19820	5237	34696	1882
Group of UTs	973	50	1337	3610	2443	3062	28151	12687	3828	12500	22103	18452	10931	372	211
All India	4446	6127	8591	8544	9100	9510	12873	15173	16529	28597	27650	39508	12585	434242	23935
Estd. no. of farmer bha(00)	82147	51251	107190	101336	94324	83247	83098	72029	80848	73401	35225	29401	893504	x	x
sample no. of farmer bhs	3669	2630	5379	5334	5244	4755	5008	4544	5306	5045	2503	2853	51770	x	x

NSS Report no. 498 indebte dness of Farmer Households, 2003